

Nike Missile Base SL-40,  
Missile Test And Assembly Building  
South end of Launch Area  
northeast of generator building no. 3  
Vicinity of Hecker  
Monroe County  
Illinois

HAER No. IL-117-T

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD  
Rocky Mountain Regional Office  
National Park Service  
P.O. Box 25287  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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**Significance:** The missile test and assembly building was an integral part of Nike Missile Base SL-40. At the missile assembly area, Nike crews uncrated, assembled, and tested the missiles. The building was built in 1958 from standardized drawings approved by the Corps of Engineers, which were designed by the firm of Leon Chatelian, Jr., of Washington D.C. Nike buildings were considered modified emergency buildings. Originally, they were to be pre-fabricated structures, but were rather unsightly and did not contribute to troop morale and, therefore, were changed to modified emergency design.

**Description:** The missile test and assembly building was primarily a one room building with two large, garage-like doors at either end, through which the missiles were rolled in and out. The building also includes a set of small rooms, including a stock room, first aid room, restroom, and boiler room. The building is a masonry structure containing 1,573 square feet. It has concrete footings, foundation and floor, cinder block walls, a built up roof, and electrical service. In addition to the two large doors, there are four entry doors, and eight windows.

**Historian:** Christina Carlson, Bregman & Company, Inc., Bethesda, Maryland, June 1994